

REMARKS

Claims 4-9 are pending in this application. Claims 1-3 are herein canceled. Claim 4 is herein amended. Claim 9 is newly added. No new matter has been entered.

Claim 4 has been amended to specifically recite the shape of the plug loading slots having a plurality of sides, wherein at least one of the sides includes a convex region that guides insertion and removal of a plug, and further prevents inadvertent contact with the contact pieces. Claim 9 narrows the shape of the convex region to a chevron.

This limitation is supported as part 21c noted in the specification on page 17, line 23 to page 18, line 6. Specifically, "In examples shown in FIGS. 7 and 11 wherein speaker terminals of the present invention are utilized as output terminals, a substantially chevron convex region 21c is formed on a side on which the concave region 21a and the convex region 21b have not been formed in the opening 21. The convex region 21c corresponds to a V-shaped valley (not shown) on a side corresponding to that (the bottom wall side in FIG. 2) of the plug main body 1. The convex region 21c functions as a guide for insertion and removal of a plug, and functions further to prevent contact of a test finger with respect to the contact piece 23."

Applicants submit that such a limitation patentably distinguishes the present invention over at least the cited references of record.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

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Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.114
Amendment Filed: September 6, 2005

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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